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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/623,919	07/21/2003	Ippci Shake	79161	5371
22242 7590 05/01/2007 FITCH EVEN TABIN AND FLANNERY 120 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET SUITE 1600 CHICAGO, IL 60603-3406			EXAMINER LEVITAN, DMITRY	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/623,919

Applicant(s)

SHAKE ET AL.

Examiner

Dmitry Levitan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Specification

The disclosure is objected to, because abbreviations or acronyms LINbO, AANP and KTP are cited throughout the specification without explanation. Applicant should provide a full explanation for the acronyms at least at their first occurrence in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 3-5 and 8-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The specification does not provide sufficient details to enable a skilled in the art to make and use the invention because it does not adequately describe the following:

Regarding claims 3 and 8, how to perform data transmission and the data recovery through a TDM system with irregular time intervals.

The specification does not provide enough details about the structure and operation of the elements associated with the above identified claimed features to enable one skilled in the art to make and use the invention without undue experimentation.

Other claims are rejected as the claims depending on claims 3 and 8.

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 4-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 4 and 13 limitations "the bit rate, the channel intervals, the relations" in lines 4 and 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 6-8 limitations "the multiplexed signals" in lines 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as shown above, are the examples of the claims multiple antecedent problems. All claims should be reviewed for clarity

Claims 5 and 14 limitations, directed to the relations of channel intervals are unclear, because the equations directed to the intervals seem contradict each other and therefore are not understood.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa (US 5,760,937).

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Ishikawa substantially teaches the limitations of the claims:

a TDM light signal channel extraction method and apparatus that separates the multiplexed signals into as many as 2 channels and extracts the channel numbers in order to provide the demultiplexed signals to the output ports of which port numbers match with the channel numbers (optical TDM demultiplexer, shown on Fig. 83 and 33:21-54, to separate the light signal in two channels, $N=2$, and extract the channel number in order for output ports 1 and 2; and similar four-channel system on Fig. 86, $N=4$), comprising:

a demultiplexing step of demultiplexing the multiplexed signals into 2 channels and providing the demultiplexed signals to as many as 2 separate ports (optical coupler 300, as shown on Fig. 83, splitting the light signal in two channels 33:21-30);

an extraction step of extracting the channel number of at least one channel in the 2 channels corresponding to said 2 separate ports (line identification data extraction circuits 314 and 316 identifying the channels per identification data 312, shown on Fig. 84 and 33:35-45);

a switching step of switching the 2 channels to the output ports of which port numbers uniquely match with the numbers of the 2 channels based on the relationship between the number of the one channel identified in the extraction step and the output port number corresponding to said one channel number (signal switching circuit 320 to match the received channels and the output ports/lines, as disclosed on 33:45-54);

and an output step of providing the signals of said switched 2 channels to the output ports of which output port numbers match with the channel numbers (outputting the channels on output lines 1 and 2 by a portion of optical receivers 306 and 307, as shown on Fig. 83, wherein

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the optical receivers inherently comprise outputting means, because the outputting means are essential for the outputting the channels).

Ishikawa does not teach number of channels as N.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add using N channels to the system of Ishikawa to improve the system operation in multi-channel environment to accommodate multiple users.

In addition, regarding claims 2 and 7, Ishikawa teaches a control step of controlling the signals of said 2 channels provided to the separate ports so that the 2 channel numbers uniquely match with the output port numbers based on the relationship between the number of the one channel identified in the extraction step and the output port number corresponding to said one channel number (alternative operation to the switching step, shown on Fig. 85 and 33:54-61, wherein the matching between the received signals and output ports is achieved by a phase shifter 322).

5. Claims 9-12 are rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa in view of Knox (US 5,631,758).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, Ishikawa substantially teaches the limitations of the parent claims (see claims 6 and 7 rejection above).

Ishikawa does not teach optical time-division -demultiplexing means comprising: a means for coupling the multiplexed signals and chirp light pulses; and a cross-correlating means for providing a cross-correlation signal when the multiplexed signal overlaps the chirp light pulse and converting the sequence of the N channels for multiplexed signals on the time axis into

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the unique sequence of channels on the wavelength axis to provide the demultiplexed signals to the N separate channels.

Knox teaches optical time-division -demultiplexing means comprising: a means for coupling the multiplexed signals and chirp light pulses; and a cross-correlating means for providing a cross-correlation signal when the multiplexed signal overlaps the chirp light pulse and converting the sequence of the N channels for multiplexed signals on the time axis into the unique sequence of channels on the wavelength axis to provide the demultiplexed signals to the N separate channels (chirping procedure, shown on Fig. 4 and 6:27-55, wherein means of the system elements 202, 206 and 207 provide coupling for multiplexed signals 205 and chirped pulses and perform cross-correlating process to generate sequence of channels, as shown on Fig. 2 and 5:30-49).

Regarding claim 11, Knox teaches coupling means that provide different delays, as shown on Fig. 4 and 6:27-55.

Regarding claims 10 and 12, Knox teaches a cross-correlated process implementation using a fiber, as shown on Fig. 2 and 4:47-65 or other means, shown on Fig. 13 and 8:64-9:56.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to means for coupling and means for cross-correlation of Knox to the system of Ishikawa to improve the system operation with multiple channels by utilizing a chirping method.

6. Claims 3, 4, 8 and 13 are rejected (as best understood) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa in view of Kumar (US 7,027,735).

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Ishikawa substantially teaches the limitations of the claims (see claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 rejections above).

Ishikawa does not teach using irregular-intervals TDM light signals.

Regarding claims 3 and 8, Kumar teaches using irregular-intervals TDM signals as serial data sequence with sequential bit slot delay variations to improve suppressing intra-channel four-wave mixing, as disclosed on 1:15-67.

Regarding claims 4 and 13, Kumar teaches using pulses with width T/N , which is less than T , comprising irregular/unequal delay, as shown on time diagrams of Fig. 5-8 and 2:1-24.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add using irregular-intervals TDM signals of Kumar to the system of Ishikawa to improve the system operation by reducing the system jitter from the ghost pulses.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Levitan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3093. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DMITRY LEVITAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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